

Claim 32 (new). The method of Claim 31 wherein the mucoretentive composition further comprises 0.005% to about 3.0% of citric acid or a salt thereof.

*D. M. T.*  
Claim 33 (new). A method of providing a mucoadhesive coating to mucosa of the esophagus, stomach and small intestine by swallowing a mucoretentive composition comprising colloidal silica wherein the mucoretentive composition has a viscosity of less than about 1.5 pascal seconds when swallowed.

Claim 34 (new). The method of claim 33 wherein the mucoretentive composition further comprises a safe and effective amount of a pharmaceutical active selected from the group consisting of gastrointestinal agents, analgesics, decongestants, expectorants, antitussives and antihistamines.

Claim 35 (new). The method of Claim 34 wherein the mucoretentive composition further comprises 0.005% to about 3.0% of citric acid or a salt thereof.